

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A method for stocking tool magazines of a machine tool, the machine tool comprising at least a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first spindle has associated therewith a first tool magazine and the second spindle has associated therewith a second tool magazine, comprising the steps of:

continuing workpiece machining and direct tool changing into and from the second tool magazine by the second spindle inside the protective cover during stocking of the first tool magazine; and-

continuing workpiece machining and direct tool changing into and from the first tool magazine by the first spindle inside the protective cover during stocking of the second tool magazine.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein stocking of the first and second tool magazines is carried out by a single machine operator.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising the step of moving the first and second tool magazines into a stocking position for stocking.

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein workpiece machining by the first and second spindles is carried out parallel and identically on identical workpieces.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein workpiece machining is carried out alternatingly by the first and second spindles on one workpiece.

6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the first and second tool magazines correlated with the first and second spindles contain identical sets of tools.

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein workpiece machining is carried out simultaneously by the first and second spindles on one workpiece.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the first and second tool magazines correlated with the first and second spindles contain identical

sets of tools.

9. (currently amended) A method for stocking tool magazines of a machine tool, the machine tool comprising at least a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first and second spindles have correlated therewith at least a first tool magazine and a second tool magazine, respectively, comprising the step steps of:

workpiece machining by the first and second spindles inside the protective cover; and

stocking the first and second tool magazines simultaneously.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein stocking of the first tool magazine is carried out by a first machine operator and stocking of the second tool magazine is carried out by a second machine operator.

11. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, comprising the step of moving the first and second tool magazines into a stocking position for stocking.

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein workpiece machining by the first and second spindles is carried out parallel and identically on identical workpieces.

13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein workpiece machining is carried out alternately by the first and second spindles on one workpiece.

14. (previously presented) The methods according to claim 13, wherein the first and second tool magazines correlated with the first and second spindles contain identical sets of tools.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein workpiece machining is carried out simultaneously by the first and second spindles on one workpiece.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the first and second tool magazines correlated with the first and second spindles contain identical sets of tools.

17. (currently amended) A method for stocking tool magazines of a

machine tool, the device machine tool comprising a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first and second spindles have correlated therewith a first tool magazine and a second tool magazine, respectively, comprising the steps of:

continuing workpiece machining inside the protective cover by the second spindle, including and tool changing at the second spindle into and from the second tool magazine through the protective cover [[,]] during stocking of the first tool magazine; and

continuing workpiece machining inside the protective cover by the first spindle, including and tool changing at the first spindle into and from the first tool magazine through the protective cover [[,]] during stocking of the second tool magazine.

18. (new) A method for stocking tool magazines of a machine tool, the machine tool comprising at least a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first spindle has associated therewith a first tool magazine and the second spindle has associated therewith a second tool magazine, comprising the steps of:

continuing workpiece machining by the second spindle during stocking of the first tool magazine;

continuing workpiece machining by the first spindle during stocking of the second tool magazine;

continuing workpiece machining by the second spindle during a tool exchange in which the first spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the first spindle and the first tool magazine; and

continuing workpiece machining by the first spindle during a tool exchange in which the second spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the second spindle and the second tool magazine.

19. (new) A method for stocking tool magazines of a machine tool, the machine tool comprising at least a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first and second spindles have correlated therewith at least

a first tool magazine and a second tool magazine, respectively, comprising the steps of:

stocking the first and second tool magazines simultaneously;

continuing workpiece machining by the second spindle during a tool exchange in which the first spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the first spindle and the first tool magazine; and

continuing workpiece machining by the first spindle during a tool exchange in which the second spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the second spindle and the second tool magazine.

20. (new) A method for stocking tool magazines of a machine tool, the machine tool comprising a first spindle and a second spindle located within a protective cover and configured to be independently movable relative to one another at least in one axis, wherein the first and second spindles have correlated therewith a first tool magazine and a second tool magazine, respectively, comprising the steps of:

continuing workpiece machining by the second spindle during stocking of the first tool magazine;

continuing workpiece machining by the first spindle during stocking of the second tool magazine;

continuing workpiece machining by the second spindle during a tool exchange in which the first spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the first spindle and the first tool magazine;

continuing workpiece machining by the first spindle during a tool exchange in which the second spindle is moved through an opening in the protective cover to have a tool exchanged between the second spindle and the second tool magazine; and

closing the openings in the protective cover after the respective tool exchanges.